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From-NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

January 7, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney Hesse,

I am writing to express support for the settlement proposed in the case of U.S. v. Microsoft.

Although I am not in the habit of submitting public comment in a case like this, I believe that the time has come to stop the persecution of this company, stop the needless spending of tax dollars, and allow this company to get back to business.

For many months now, the Federal government has pursued this company and threatened to break up its operations because of claims of its monopoly status. Finally, the parties have come to an agreement that is far reaching and addresses all the courts concerns. This agreement should be awarded with acceptance by the government.

Extraordinary amounts of money already been spent prosecuting this case. As a state representative, I work hard to make sure that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and believe the Federal government should do so too. Many citizens of this country are out of work and are struggling to make ends meet. Americans are less concerned about the issues between computer companies and much more concerned about how they are going to provide for their families and their futures. We should all take a lesson from this and end needless spending as quickly as possible.

Microsoft has been a strong force in our economy and should be allowed to get back to the business of serving consumers. I hope you will approve this settlement as quickly as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsey Patten".

Betsey Patten
State Representative, Carroll County, District 9